

KM 9335

98080364

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From: Andrew S. <Tracker_98@webtv.net>
To: B4.B4 (COMPLAINTS-ENF)
Date: 8/29/98 1:04pm
Subject: Florida District court ruling

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I would like to bring to your attention the ruling by the District court of Florida, and how it will effect the consumer; in regards to the viewing of Television networks, such as: CBS, and FOX, via satellite. I feel my rights as a consumer are being violated by the current ruling in this case, and the current laws regarding this matter. I am in what the court has deemed a grade B reception area. This means that on or before October 1998 I will loose my right as a consumer to view any and all programs from both CBS, and FOX. I can not receive a picture from these or any of the network affiliates (in my area, that broadcast from St.Louis) with a conventional antenna. If I have to pay to receive network programing, I should have the right as a consumer to choose how I want that programing delivered. We are living in a world where technology is advancing at an ever increasing rate. With millions of satellite customers today, and many more in the next millenium... I am sure you can see as I do, that the current laws for satellite owners need to be changed, so everyone can freely view network programing in a way that is most feasible for them.

I would like to thank you for your time, and look forward to hearing your thoughts concerning this issue.

Sincerely,
Andrew S.

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From: "*****" <daisy@eatel.net>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY)
Date: 8/31/98 2:48pm
Subject: WE WANT OUR NETWORKS!!!!!!

To the Head of the International Bureau, Regina Keeney:

Dear Regina,

I cannot receive an acceptable network picture using a conventional outdoor rooftop antenna and would like to continue to receive the network stations over my satellite system. I live in an area that the court defines as "predictive Grade B".

Please establish a viewing standard that will ensure that all families who cannot receive an acceptable network picture using an conventional outdoor rooftop antenna can receive network programming via satellite. Please, stop this unfair court order until the new standard is in place.

I am well aware of the fact that the Grade B contour was never intended to be used to determine whether or not a consumer can receive an acceptable picture. It was originally intended as a rough calculation to prevent broadcast signals from interfering with one another.

Congress asked the Commission for purposes of the Satellite Home Viewer Act to define "Grade B" for the purposes of protecting the right of every U.S. consumer to receive high-quality network service. It is now time for this definition to be accurately established!

Thank you for your time,

Tim Dinnel

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From: Marnee Koehler <marnee.koehler@echostar.com>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY)
Date: 8/31/98 1:52pm
Subject: are you attempting to block our emails?

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From: Frederick Brown <fredtoby@earthlink.net>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY)
Date: 8/30/98 9:21pm
Subject: Satellite Television

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Recently, a Federal Court in Florida, at the request of the television networks entered an order that will cause me to lose my network service.

Please establish a viewing standard that will ensure that all families who cannot receive an acceptable network picture using an conventional outdoor rooftop antenna can receive network programming via satellite. Please stop the unfair court order until the new standard is in place.

I live in an area that the court defines as "predictive Grade B" and I cannot get a picture by using a conventional outdoor rooftop antenna, because my reception is blocked by hills.

I am well aware of the fact that the Grade B contour was never intended to be used to determine whether or not a consumer can receive an acceptable picture. It was originally intended as a rough calculation to

prevent broadcast signals form interfering with one another.

Congress has asked the Commission for purposes of the Satellite Home Viewer Act to define "Grade B" for the purposes of protecting the right of every U.S. consumer to receive high-quality network service. It is now time for this definition to be accurately established!

PLEASE, I WANT TO KEEP THE HIGH QUALITY NETWORK SERVICE I NOW RECEIVE!!!!!!!!!!

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From: Joe McConnaughey <kenn10@mindspring.com>
To: J1.J1 (RKEENEY)
Date: 8/29/98 6:41pm
Subject: Network Feeds Over DSS Systems

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Ms. Keeney:

I think the current ruling that would block networks and local stations from satellite owners is ridiculous. At our mountain home in Highlands, NC, we cannot receive ANY signal from the air as we are in a valley and the cable company refuses to run to us. For that reason, we purchased an RCA DSS system.

Making the public responsible for begging the local stations for permission to receive a network feed is a disservice.

As the law currently appears, there will be no reasonable way to escape the cable companies in the local market either. I recently bought a Dish Network system for my home in Kennesaw, Georgia specifically so I could dump Media One as my cable company. Bad service, high rates and poor picture quality all led to my decision. I cannot receive local channels where I live without a roof-top antenna. Such antenna is also prohibited by neighborhood covenants.

I am not happy with you, your committee or my governmental representation. You people either have half a brain or big payoffs from the cable industry. I suggest you people straighten this mess out or get new jobs.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. McConnaughey
1192 Mountainside Trace
Kennesaw, Georgia 30152-4625
Telephone (770) 528-9443

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From: "Shelle" <astroldy@gte.net>
To: B4.B4 (COMPLAINTS-ENF)
Date: 8/31/98 8:05am
Subject: ?

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To Whom it May Concern;

I would like to voice my opinion on a matter that has apparently been decided by the Federal Government regarding my ability to receive network broadcasts from my satellite provider.

I received a letter from Direct TV informing me that because of a recent court decision I am no longer eligible to receive CBS or FOX broadcasting via my satellite system.

According to the eligibility criteria, I am now supposed to get a waiver from CBS in Los Angeles, CA and FOX broadcasting in El Centro. I am over 100 miles from Los Angeles and can not receive ANY broadcasts from that area, the same for El Centro.

However, in order to comply I called the Los Angeles station and requested the waiver form from them. I then attempted to contact the television station in El Centro, only to be told that they do not serve my area. The gentleman I spoke with gave me the phone number of a television station in Palm Desert to contact. I continued to get sent to different phone numbers, people and television stations, all in an attempt to comply with this court order.

The final result is that I am not sure I will be able to get a waiver in order to comply. The facts are that I live in an area that is surrounded by foothills. The non-cable or satellite reception I receive on my television sets is sporadic at best. I do not have the money, time or inclination to buy an antenna that might be capable of receiving "local" transmissions. Further I resent being told what television stations I am allowed to receive. I can choose what telephone company I use, which electric company I use - but I am now allowed to receive local network broadcasting - only.

What country am I in now? Isn't our country based on our freedom to choose? How dare you attempt, with the help of the rich television stations, to limit my freedoms to choose what channels I will receive.

I would appreciate a reply to this. I am outraged at this situation.

Shelle Enright
PO Box 69
North Palm Springs, CA 92258
760-329-7512

astroldy@gte.net

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